

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 125074
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:D E ZWEIFEL:MM
APPROVED BY P:D D NEWSOM
NEA:H H SAUNDERS
S/S-O:TGMARTIN
S/AA:A L ATHERTON, JR.

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O R 170125Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 125074

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, UNGA, EG, US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL'S PARTICIPATION IN SSOD

REF:A)CAIRO 11151, B) CAIRO 12710

1. DEPARTMENT ASSUMES THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL STILL PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN SSOD AND, SPECIFICALLY, THAT HE WILL BE IN NEW YORK ON MAY 30 WHEN EGYPT IS INSCRIBED TO ADDRESS UNGA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST ANY INFORMATION WHICH EMBASSY MIGHT PROVIDE CONCERNING KAMEL'S PLANS FOR THIS TRIP.

2. BEYOND ATTENDANCE AT SSOD, WE ANTICIPATE THAT KAMEL MAY WISH TO COME TO WASHINGTON FOR DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER ISSUES. IF THIS IS SO, WE WILL BE FACED WITH A DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 125074

BOTH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY ARE SWAMPED WITH REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENTS DURING LATE MAY-EARLY JUNE (SOME ELEVEN CHIEFS OF STATE AND 49 FOREIGN MINISTERS PLAN TO ATTEND SSOD, AND MANY DESIRE TO COMBINE ATTENDANCE AT UNGA WITH TRIP TO WASHINGTON). HENCE, WHILE WE ARE SENSITIVE TO POSSIBLE GOE DESIRE FOR FOLLOW-ON DISCUSSIONS WITH KAMEL-- AND TO INEVITABLE EXPECTATION FOR TREATMENT PARALLEL TO

THAT GIVEN TO ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN WHEN HE LAST VISITED IN MARCH--WE WISH ACTIVELY TO FORESTALL REQUEST

WHICH IN ALL PROBABILITY WE WOULD HAVE TO TURN DOWN.

3. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE GOAL OF PREEMPTING EGYPTIANS ON THIS MATTER, WE PROPOSE THAT AMBASSADOR BROACH SUBJECT WITH KAMEL, MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

--WE ARE PLEASED THAT KAMEL WILL PARTICIPATE IN SSOD AND LOOK FORWARD TO PRODUCTIVE SESSION.

--WE WISH TO CONTINUE OUR DIALOGUE WITH GOE ON OTHER ISSUES, AND BELIEVE THAT KAMEL'S PRESENCE IN U.S. WILL PROVIDE SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY.

--BEFORE WE KNEW OF KAMEL'S TENTATIVE PLANS (REFTEL B), WE HAD SUGGESTED THAT SECRETARY HOST MAY 25 LUNCHEON FOR HIM IN NEW YORK. SECRETARY HAS AGREED. WE WILL TRY TO HOLD THIS OPTION OPEN FOR A FEW DAYS, BUT PRESSURE IS GREAT TO ACCOMMODATE OTHER REQUESTS FOR MEETINGS.

--SECRETARY WILL ONLY BE IN NEW YORK MAY 24-25. IF PROPOSED LUNCHEON DOES NOT WORK OUT, WE HOPE KAMEL WILL UNDERSTAND THAT WE WILL HAVE TO LOOK TO ALTERNATIVES TO DIRECT DISCUSSION WITH SECRETARY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 125074

--ALTERNATIVE WHICH OCCURS TO US IF NEW YORK MEETING WITH SECRETARY CANNOT BE ARRANGED, WOULD BE TO HAVE EITHER UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM OR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS TRAVEL TO NEW YORK TO MEET KAMEL. WE ALSO WOULD PLAN TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR ATHERTON.

4. PLEASE DO NOT RAISE SUGGESTION OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT; SHOULD KAMEL DO SO, YOU WILL HAVE TO DISSUADE HIM IN GENTLEST MANNER POSSIBLE. YOU CAN POINT OUT TO KAMEL THAT PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE SO TIGHT THAT HE HAS HAD TO PUT OFF SUGGESTED MEETINGS WITH HEADS OF STATE DURING THIS PERIOD (FYI: INCLUDING, AS YOU KNOW, KING HUSSEIN).
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